

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A quick release supporting apparatus for a canister for releasable mounting to a medical patient transporter having a rigid support member, said apparatus comprising:

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a mounting bracket mountable by mounting means to said rigid support member,

said mounting bracket mountable to a rigid, canister retaining frame,

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said retaining frame defining a rigid cavity having an opening for receiving a gas canister substantially completely into said cavity,

a portion of said retaining frame providing a means for carrying of said retaining frame by a user when the canister is mounted in said cavity,

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wherein said frame includes at least one collar, and a corresponding at least one aperture defined by said at least one collar, said at least one aperture being co-axial with a longitudinal axis of the canister when the canister is mounted journalled in said at least one collar.

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2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for carrying includes a carry handle.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 further including at least one latch cooperating between said mounting bracket and said retaining frame for releasable mounting into mating engagement of said retaining frame with said mounting bracket.

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4. The apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a manually operable release actuator cooperating with said at least one latch for selective actuation of said at least one latch to release said retaining frame from said mounting bracket.

5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said mounting bracket includes an elongated rigid base having a mating surface recessed therein for receiving said retaining frame into conformal mating engagement.
- 5 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said mounting bracket comprises first and second opposite ends wherein said first end has a fixed hook in opposed facing relation to a corresponding latch hook on said at least one latch.
- 10 7. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said mounting bracket includes a plate comprising first and second opposite ends wherein said first end has a fixed hook in opposed facing relation to a corresponding latch hook on said at least one latch.
- 15 8. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said mounting means includes an elongated member adapted for mating with said mounting bracket and said rigid support.
9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said elongated member is clamped to said rigid support member by a clamping means such that said elongated member cannot rotate around said rigid support member.
- 20 10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said elongated member comprises a pair of linear and parallel oppositely disposed flanges for sliding mating into and along a correspondingly shaped channel in said rigid support.
- 25 11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one collar comprises first and second collars mounted parallel and spaced apart, corresponding first and second apertures defined by said collars being co-axial along a longitudinal axis of the canister when mounted journalled in said collars.